GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3166
ANSWERED ON:19.03.2001
DECLINE IN GROUND WATER LEVEL
BASUDEB ACHARIA

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the ground water table in many States including Punjab and Haryana has been falling rapidly;

(b) if so, the areas of land affected, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken to arrest the falling water table and recharge the ground water?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) & (b) The long term observations made by the Central Ground Water Board have shown situation of fall in the level ofground water in various parts of the country, including, Punjab and Haryana. The names of the States/districts having pockets where fall in the ground water level for more than 4 metre (1980-99) has been observed are indicated in the attached Statement. Information about the area of land affected by the fall in level of ground water is not maintained by the Central Ground Water Board.

(c) Water being a State subject, steps to augement ground water resources are primarily taken by the concerned State Governments. The action taken by the Union Government to check the decline in ground water level include:-

(i) Implementation of a Central Sector Scheme on "Studies on Artificial Recharge of Ground Water". Ground water recharge structures were constructed in Kurukshetra area of Haryana, Union Territory of Chandigarh and Sangrur, Jalandhar, Moga and Patiala districts of Punjab.

(ii) Constitution of Central Ground Water Authority under the Environment (Proteciton) Act, 1986 for regulation and control of ground water management and development.

(iii) Circulation of a Model Bill to all the States/Union Territories to enable them to enact suitable legislation for regulation and control of ground water development.

(iv) Circulation of Manual on artificial recharge of ground water to the States/Union Territories to enable them to formulate area specific artificial recharge schemes to check the declining trend in ground water levels.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) and (b) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 3166 FOR REP ON 19.03.2001

NAME OF THE STATE/DISTRICT HAVING POCKETS WITH FALL IN GROUND WATER LEVEL OF MORE THAN 4 METRE (198 99)

SL.NO.	STATE	DISTRICTS
1.	ANDHRA PRADESH	Shrikakulam, Chittor
2.	MAHARASHTRA	Akola, Nagpur, Jalgaon, Osmanabad, Satara, Aurangabad, Sangli, Buldhana, Amravati
3.	PUNJAB	Amritsar, Jallandhar, Ferozpur, Ludhiana, Patiala, Sangrur, Faridkot, Fatehgarh.
4.	HARYANA	Kurushetra, Kaithal, Mehandargarh, Jind

5.	UTTAR PRADESH	Gonda, Farukhabad, Lucknow, Kanpur, Fetehpur, Allahabad, Banda, Nainital
6.	BIHAR	East Singhbhum, Ranchi, Samastipur, Chapra, Dharbhanga
7	WEST BENGAL	Purlia, Midnapur
8.	ORISSA	Koraput, Mayurbhanj
9.	RAJASTHAN	Nagaur, Bikaner, Jaipur
10.	MADHYA PRADESH	Ujjain, Dewas, Shajahanpur, Dhar, Sagar, Bilaspur, Raipur, Surguja, Guna, Narsinghpur
11.	KARNATAKA	Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwar, Bellari, Shimoga, Bangalore, Mysore, Gulbarga
12.	TAMIL NADU	Salem, South Arcot, Coimbatore, Madurai, Tanjavour, Paddukottai, Kamrajar, Thirunaganar